

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01
/059 W

-----151351Z 048059 /44

R 151330Z FEB 77
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8090
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: BRANDT JOINS BAVARIAN SPD IN WHISTLING IN THE DARK

1. SPD CHAIRMAN WILLY BRANDT TOLD MUNICH PRESS FEBRUARY 12 THAT SPD HAS MADE "NEW BEGINNING" IN SOUTHERN BAVARIA. BRANDT CLAIMED THAT MUNICH SPD, WHICH MUST PLAY KEY ROLE IN REVIVAL OF SPD FORTUNES IN BAVARIA, IS IN PROCESS OF OVERCOMING ITS TROUBLES. HE FORESAW GOOD PROSPECT OF SPD WINNING MUNICH LORD MAYOR RACE IN 1978.

2. BRANDT CALLED ON THE SOUTHERN BAVARIAN SPD TO FOLLOW A COURSE OF "INTEGRATION." HE PRESUMABLY UNDERSTOOD THIS TERM TO IMPLY EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE FACTIONAL DISPUTES BY PLACING EMPHASIS ON THE VIEWS AND GOALS VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE PARTY HOLD IN COMMON.

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3. BRANDT ALSO PREDICTED THAT THE ASSUMPTION BY STRAUSS OF THE BAVARIAN MINISTER-PRESIDENCY WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DISADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BAVARIAN SPD.

4. COMMENT: BRANDT HAS, IN EFFECT, ENDORSED SPD BAVARIAN LAND CHAIRMAN DESIGNATE ROTHEMUND'S APPROACH. THIS APPROACH SEEMS BASED ON THE CONVICTION THAT THE SPD SHOULD,

ON ONE HAND, AVOID ISSUES WHICH WOULD PRODUCE CONTROVERSY
WITHIN ITS OWN RANKS, AND, ON THE OTHER, TRUMPET THOSE
ISSUES WHICH POINT UP CONTROVERSIES WITHIN THE CSU. THIS
APPROACH IS DESIGNED TO PLAY DOWN FACTIONAL DISPUTES IN THE
SPD AND TO RALLY THE FAITHFUL BY ATTACKING THE OPPONENT.
THE SPD IS WHISTLING AS IT PREPARES TO FACE THE DARK PROS-
PECT OF ENTERING THE 1978 COMMUNAL AND LANDTAG ELECTIONS
WITHOUT A PROGRAM WHICH COMMANDS THE ENTHUSIASM AND SUP-
PORT OF ITS CONSTITUENT ELEMENTS.BETTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PARTY UNITY, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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